

MICHAEL DAVID SILLS
and MARY SILLS,

Plaintiffs,

V.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION,
et al.

Defendants.

CASE NO. 3:23-cv-00478

JUDGE WILLIAM L. CAMPBELL, JR.
Magistrate Judge Chip Frensley

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

JOINT MOTION TO MODIFY CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

The parties, by and through counsel, respectfully move the Court to amend the case management order deadlines. Specifically, the parties seek to amend by four weeks the expert deposition deadline, currently set for **August 8, 2025**, with a proposed extension to **September 5, 2025**, and the dispositive motion deadline, currently set for **August 22, 2025**, with a proposed extension to **September 19, 2025**. Extension of these dates will not jeopardize the **February 10, 2026** trial date in this matter, as all briefing relating to any summary judgment motion will be complete on or before **November 11, 2025**, allowing 90 days before the scheduled trial.

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.01, counsel for Defendant Guidepost Solutions LLC (“Guidepost”) has conferred with counsel for all remaining Defendants¹ and Plaintiffs, and Guidepost is authorized to represent that all current parties agree to the relief sought.

In support of this Joint Motion, the parties state as follows:

¹ Defendant Jennifer Lyell passed away on June 7, 2025. A Suggestion of Death was filed by Plaintiffs on June 11, 2025 (Doc. 287), and a separate Suggestion of Death of Defendant Jennifer Lyell and Notice of Abatement of Claims was filed with the Court by counsel for Lyell on June 16, 2025. (Doc. 300.) The time within which to substitute a party has not yet run, and no substitution has been made.

1. This matter is currently set for trial on February 10, 2026. (Doc. 193.)
2. The Initial Case Management Order was entered on August 17, 2023 (Doc. 99), with a trial date set for June 30, 2025. (Doc. 101.)
3. As has been well documented in the parties' filings in this matter, the volume of document discovery, and the number of parties and witnesses, have necessitated multiple extensions of deadlines,² including an extension of the trial date from its original setting of June 30, 2025 to its current setting of February 10, 2026. (Docs. 191-193.)
4. Further, on June 20, 2025,³ Plaintiffs disclosed six expert witnesses pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B) and served Defendants with expert reports for each of those six experts. (Doc. 309 at 2-4.) That same day, Plaintiffs also disclosed an additional four individuals, each of whom treated David Sills or Mary Sills, who "may testify and provide evidence pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 702, 703, and 705," pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(C). (*Id.* at 4-6.) Defendants intend to depose each of Plaintiffs' ten witnesses who may offer expert opinions at trial, and they anticipate disclosing two or more expert witnesses of their own, each of whom likely will be deposed.
5. The parties seek an extension of four weeks to the remaining expert deposition and dispositive motion deadlines to allow time for the parties to work through outstanding disputes regarding discovery – specifically as it relates to 30(b)(6) depositions – finalize that discovery, take expert depositions, supplement expert reports if needed, and thoroughly and appropriately prepare dispositive motions. To that end, the parties respectfully request deadline extensions as follows:

² See, e.g., Joint Motions to Amend Case Management Order, Docs. 191, 207.

³ The Court allowed Plaintiffs to disclose their experts before the close of business on June 20, 2025. (Doc. 305.) Per the terms of the Initial Case Management Order and by agreement of the parties, Defendants' expert disclosures are due thirty days after Plaintiffs' disclosures. (Doc. 99, § I.)

Event	Current Deadline	Proposed Deadline
Deposition of Experts	August 8, 2025	September 5, 2025
Dispositive Motions Responses to Motions Replies	August 22, 2025 September 12, 2025 September 26, 2025	September 19, 2025 October 23, 2025 November 11, 2025
Motions <i>in limine</i>	January 19, 2026 (file) January 26, 2026 (respond)	Unaffected
Exchange Exhibits and Deposition Designations	January 19, 2026	Unaffected
Joint Pre-trial Order, Jury Instructions, Witness & Exhibit Lists, Stipulations	January 26, 2026	Unaffected
Pre-trial Conference	February 2, 2026	Unaffected
Trial Date	February 10, 2026	Unaffected

6. The parties are further agreed that, in the event the Court grants the parties' Joint Motion, the parties shall schedule all expert depositions to be taken no later than August 31, 2025.

7. The requested extensions are not made for purposes of delay; do not prejudice any party; and conform to the requirements of Local Rule 6.01, Local Rule 16.01, and the Initial Case Management Order. Given the February 10, 2026 trial date, all dispositive motions must be fully briefed on or before November 12, 2025, which is 90 days prior to trial. With the requested extensions to the expert deposition and dispositive motion deadlines sought by the parties, dispositive motions will be fully briefed on or before **November 11, 2025** and, therefore, the extended schedule would remain in compliance with Section M of the Initial Case Management Order and the Court's directives.

8. For the reasons set forth above, the parties respectfully request that the Court grant their Joint Motion and extend the expert deposition and dispositive motion deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Katharine R. Klein

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served through the Court's electronic filing system on the following:

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on this 18th day of July, 2025.

s/Katharine R. Klein